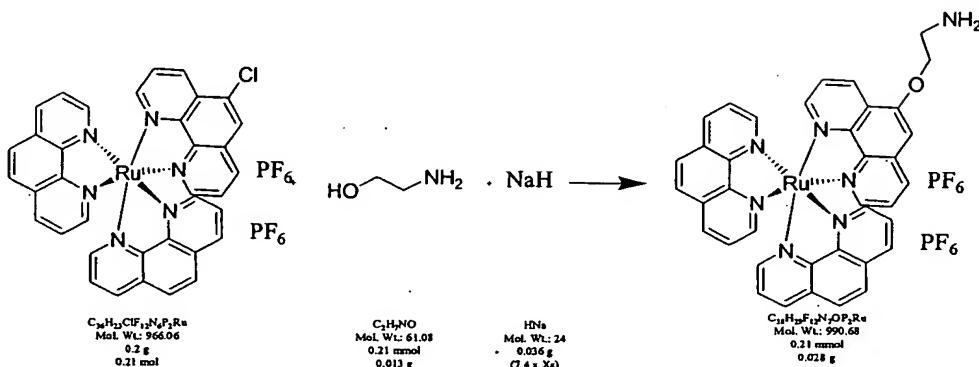
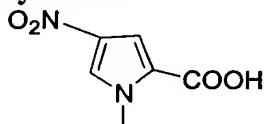


Synthesis of [Ru(phen)₂(Phen-4-NH₂-CH₂CH₂-NH₂)](PF₆)₂



The ruthenium complex, [Ru(phen)₂4-Cl-Phen](PF₆)₂ (0.2 g, 0.21 mmol) was also suspended in deaerated DMF (5 mL) while separately NaH (0.036 g, 1.5 mmol) was also suspended in a stirring solution of dry, deaerated DMF (5 mL). Ethanolamine (12.8 μ L, 0.21 mmol) was added to the solution of NaH. The two solutions were mixed via cannula and the resulting black solution heated at 40 °C for 2 hr. The solution was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure leaving a red black residue which was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with acetonitrile (5% saturated KNO₃ solution and 10 % water). Fractions containing unreacted starting complex and product were isolated by TLC (SiO₂, ACN/5% saturated KNO₃/10% H₂O). These fractions were combined, reduced to dryness then extracted into dichloromethane (4 x 100 mL) from H₂O (100 mL). The extracts were reduced to dryness and subsequently purified on a column of TLC grade silica gel (ACN/1% saturated KNO₃/10% H₂O). This purification achieved a separation of bands containing unreacted starting complex and product. The product (band 2) was collected, reduced to dryness then extracted into dichloromethane (4 x 100 mL) from H₂O (100 mL). Evaporation of the solution to dryness under reduced pressure gave the product as a deep red solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃CN): 8.54 (d, 4H), 8.44 (dd, 2H), 8.28 (d, 1H), 8.23 (s, 4H), 8.18 (d, 1H), 8.08 (d, 1H), 8.00 (d, 1H), 7.83 (d, 1H), 7.76 (d, 1H), 7.65 (bm, 4H), 7.40 (dd, 1H), 6.70 (d, 1H), 6.38 (d, 1H), 1.30 (bs, 4H).

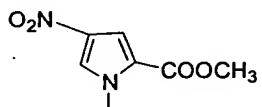
1-Methyl-4-nitropyrrole-2-carboxylic acid



Acetic anhydride (20 mL) was treated with nitric acid (4.0 mL, 70%) and the mixture heated to 50 °C for 15 min then cooled to room temperature, and slowly added to a suspension of 1-methyl-2-pyrrolecarboxylic acid (4 g, 15.98 mmol) in Ac₂O (12 mL) cooled to -25 °C. The mixture was stirred at -15 °C for 0.5 hr, then the temperature

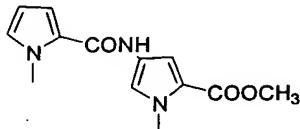
was allowed to rise to ambient, and stirring was continued for 20 min. The mixture was again cooled to -25 °C and the precipitate collected in a funnel cooled with dry ice, the solid was washed with a small quantity of cold Ac₂O (-25 °C). The crystalline solid was taken up in water containing NaOH (1 g). Acidification with the HCl precipitated the pure compound. NMR as previously reported.

5 **Methyl 1-methyl-4nitropyrrole-2-carboxylate**



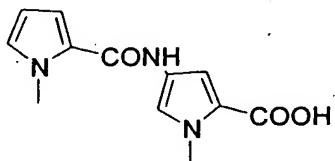
A cold solution of H₂SO₄ (2.9 mL) in MeOH (28.96 mL) was added to 1-methyl-4-nitropyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (2.897 g, 2.35 mmol). The mixture was refluxed for 24 hr. Water was added and the mixture extracted CHCl₃. The organic layer was dried (MgSO₄), and the solvent evaporated under vacuum to afford the creamy white product. NMR as previously reported.

10 **Py/Py-COOCH₃**



15 Methyl *N*-methyl-4-nitro pyrrole-2-carboxylate (0.5 g, 27.17 mmol) in MeOH (64 mL) and Pd/C (10%, 6 mg) was stirred under H₂ (1 atm) until the TLC showed no starting material (1 hr). The mixture was filtered through celite to remove the catalyst and DMF was added (3 mL). MeOH was removed under vacuum. *N*-methyl pyrrole-2-carboxylic acid (1.3 mol equiv) was added followed by HOBT (88 mg, 1.5 mol equiv), TBTU (209 mg, 1.5 equiv) and Et₃N (220 mg, 5 equiv). The solution was stirred for 1 hr at room temperature and the solvent removed under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (100% DCM).

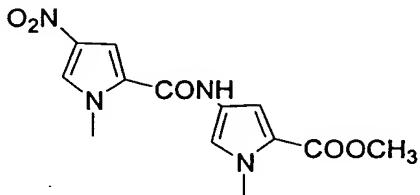
20 **Py/Py-COOH**



25 Py/Py-COOCH₃ (360 mg, 1.38 mmol) in THF/MeOH (1.1 / 7.5 mL) was added LiOH (1 M, 5.5 mL) and the solution stirred at 60 °C (oil bath) for 1.5 hr and monitored by TLC (10%, MeOH/CH₂Cl). The organics were evaporated under vacuum, the solution

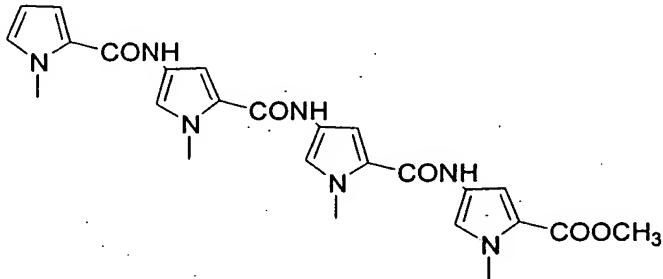
cooled and acidified with HCl (1 M 5mL). The solid was collected and air dried and left in a desiccator under vacuum overnight. NMR as previously reported.

NO₂-Py/Py-COOCH₃



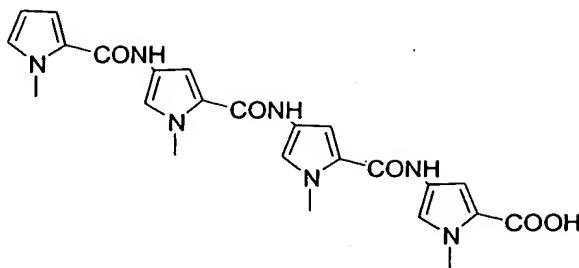
NO₂-Py-COOCH₃ (1.45 g, 7.83 mmol) in MeOH (150 mL) and Pd/C (174 mg) was stirred under H₂ (1 atm) for 1 hr. The mixture was filtered through celite and DMF (3 mL) added. MeOH was removed under vacuum. NO₂-Py-COOH (1.8 g,) was added followed by HOBT (255.2 mg, 1.89 mmol) and TBTU (606 mg, 1.89 mmol) and Et₃N (638 mg, 6.32 mmol). The solution was stirred for 1 hr at room temp and the solvent (DMF) removed under vacuum until a small quantity remained. The pure compound was precipitated by addition of MeOH. %). ¹H NMR (d-DMSO): 10.21 (s, 1H); 8.15 (d, 1H), 7.53 (d, 1H), 7.43 (d, 1H), 6.88 (d, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H).

Py/Py/Py/Py-COOCH₃



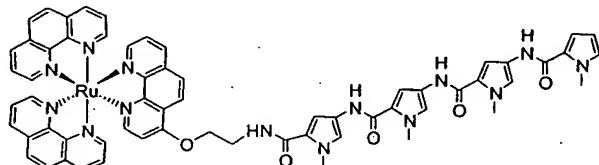
NO₂-Py/Py-COOCH₃ (213 mg, 0.69 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (25 mL) and added Pd/C catalyst (15 mg) and stirred under H₂ until the amine was formed. The mixture was filtered through celite and Py/Py-COOH (166 mg, 0.66 mmol) added to the solution followed by HOBT (22 mg, 0.16 mmol), TBTU (51 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Et₃N (53 mg, 0.52 mmol). The reaction was then left to couple for 1.5 hr. The DMF was removed under reduced pressure to yield the compound.

Py/Py/Py/Py-COOH



Py/Py/Py/Py-COOCH₃ (100 mg, 0.20 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was added NaOH (0.75 mL) and the solution stirred at 60 °C for 1 hr. The organics were evaporated until approx. 3 mL remained and acidified with HCl (1 M, 5 mL) to yield the product.

[Ru(phen)₂(phen-4-O-CH₂CH₂NHCO-Py/Py/Py](PF₆)₂



10

15

[Ru(phen)₂(phen-4-O-CH₂CH₂NH₂](PF₆)₂ (28 mg, 0.03 mmol) dissolved in DMF (25 mL) and added Pd/C catalyst (15 mg) and stirred under H₂ until the amine was formed. The mixture was filtered through celite) and Py/Py/Py/Py-COOH (75 mg, 0.15 mmol) added to the solution followed by HOBT (22 mg, 0.16 mmol), TBTU (51 mg, 0.16 mmol) and Et₃N (53 mg, 0.52 mmol). The reaction was then left to couple for 2 hr. The DMF was removed under reduced pressure to yield the compound.

Y¹ and Y² may be the same or different and are independently selected from NH, -NH₂, C=O, C=S, C=NH, O, OH, S, SH, S(O), S(O)₂, NR³, NHR³, N(R³)₂, an optionally substituted cycloalkylamine, an optionally substituted cycloalkyldiamine, and an optionally substituted heteroaryl group (e.g., an optionally substituted N-heteroaryl group such as pyridyl, phenanthrolinyl, 2,2'-bipyridyl); where each R³ is independently selected from alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

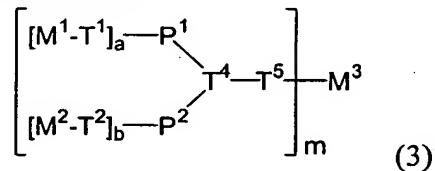
A is selected from an optionally substituted C₁₋₁₀ alkylene, an optionally substituted C₂₋₁₀ alkenylene, an optionally substituted C₂₋₁₀ alkynylene, an optionally substituted C₃₋₆ cycloalkylene, an optionally substituted C₆₋₁₀ aryl, C=O, C=S, and C=NH, NH, O, S, NH₂, OH, SH, S(O), S(O)₂, amino acids, and spermidine; and

n is an integer selected from 1 to 20,

wherein when n is an integer greater than 1, each (A) group may be the same or different.

8. A compound according to claim 7, wherein each linker group independently comprises a group selected from -NH-(CH₂)_n-NH₂-, -NH-CH₂CH₂CH₂-O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₂CH₂-O-CH₂CH₂CH₂-NH₂, -NH-C(O)-CH₂CH₂-NH-C(O)-CH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂-, -S-(CH₂)_n-O-(CH₂)_n-S-, or -NH-(CH₂)_n-O-, and -C(O)-NH-CH₂-C(O)-NH-CH(CH₂SH)-C(O)-NH-, where n is an integer from 1 to 20.

9. A compound of formula (3):



where

M¹, M², M³ are the same or different and are each a metal coordination complex as defined for M¹ and M² of formula (1) in claim 1, wherein at least one of M¹, M² and M³ is capable of interacting with a major groove or minor groove of a polynucleotide;

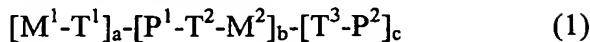
T¹ and T² are the same or different and are each a sequence selective pyrrole-imidazole polyamide as defined for formula (1) in claim 1;

T³ and T⁴ are the same or different and are each a linker group of formula (2) as defined for formula (1) in claim 1;

T⁵ is a linker group of formula (2) as defined for T¹ and T² of formula (1) in claim 1, wherein one of Y¹ and Y² is bound to a metallocomplex M³ and the other of Y¹ and Y² is covalently bound to T⁴;

The claims defining the invention are as follows:

1. A compound of formula (1)



or a salt thereof,

wherein

M¹ and M² are the same or different and are each a metal coordination complex, wherein at least one of M¹ and M² is capable of interacting with a major groove or minor groove of a polynucleotide;

T¹ and T² are the same or different and are each a sequence selective pyrrole-imidazole polyamide;

T¹, T² and T³ are the same or different and are each a linker group;

a is 0, or 1;

b is an integer selected from 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5;

wherein when b is an integer greater than 1, each P¹, each T² and each M² may be the same or different; and

c is 0, 1 or 2; wherein when c is 2, each P² may be the same or different and each T³ may be the same or different.

2. A compound according to claim 1, a = 0, b = 1, and c = 0.

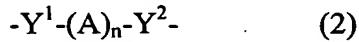
3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein M¹ and M² are the same or different and are individually selected from a platinum complex, a palladium complex, a ruthenium complex, and a rhodium complex.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein M¹ and M² are independently selected from cis -Pt(NH₃)₂Cl and trans -Pt(NH₃)₂Cl.

5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein each pyrrole-imidazole polyamides (P¹, P²) independently comprises a plurality of heterocyclic rings selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted N-methylimidazole (Im), optionally substituted N-methylpyrrole (Py) and optionally substituted 3-hydroxy N-methylpyrrole (Hp).

6. A compound according to claim 5, wherein each pyrrole-imidazole polyamide independently comprises 3 heterocyclic rings or 4 heterocyclic rings.

7. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the linker groups (T¹, T², T³) are the same or different and each has the formula (2):



wherein

T^4 is a linker group of formula (2) as defined for T^1 and T^2 of formula (1) in claim 1, wherein Y^1 is covalently bound to a pyrrole-imidazole polyamide, Y^2 is covalently bound to a pyrrole-imidazole polyamide, and wherein one Y^1 , Y^2 and A is covalently bound to T^5 ;

5 a and b are independently selected from 0 and 1; and

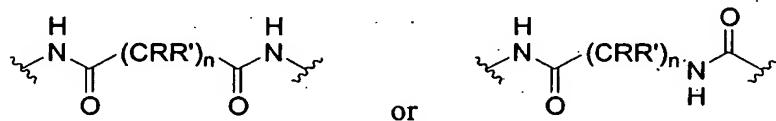
m is 1, 2, 3 or 4.

10. A compound according to claim 9, wherein m is 1 or 2.

11. A compound according to claim 9, wherein a = 0, b = 1, and m = 1.

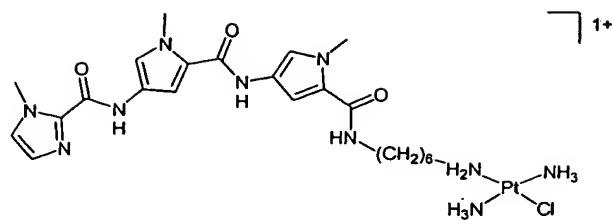
12. A compound according to claim 9, wherein T^4 comprises

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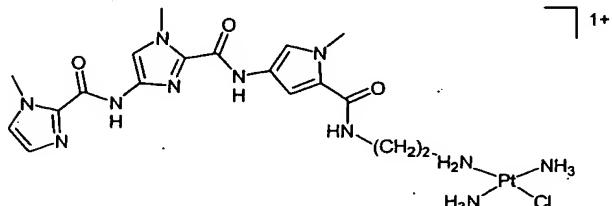


wherein n is an integer selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, each (CRR') is independently an optionally substituted alkylene; and wherein in one (CRR'), R' is absent and CR is covalently bound to T^5 .

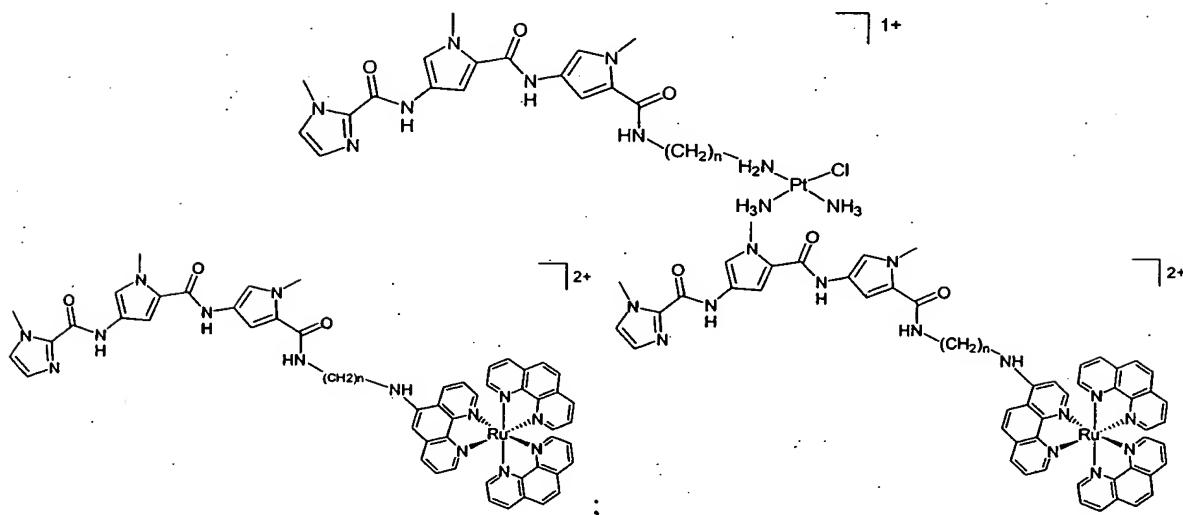
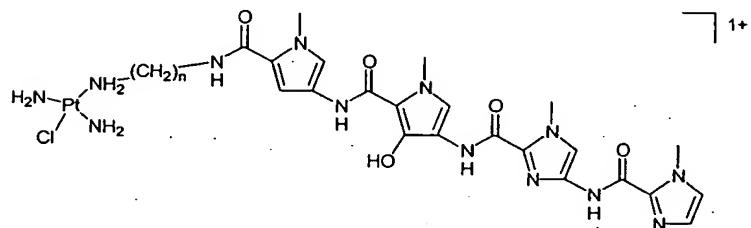
15. A compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from



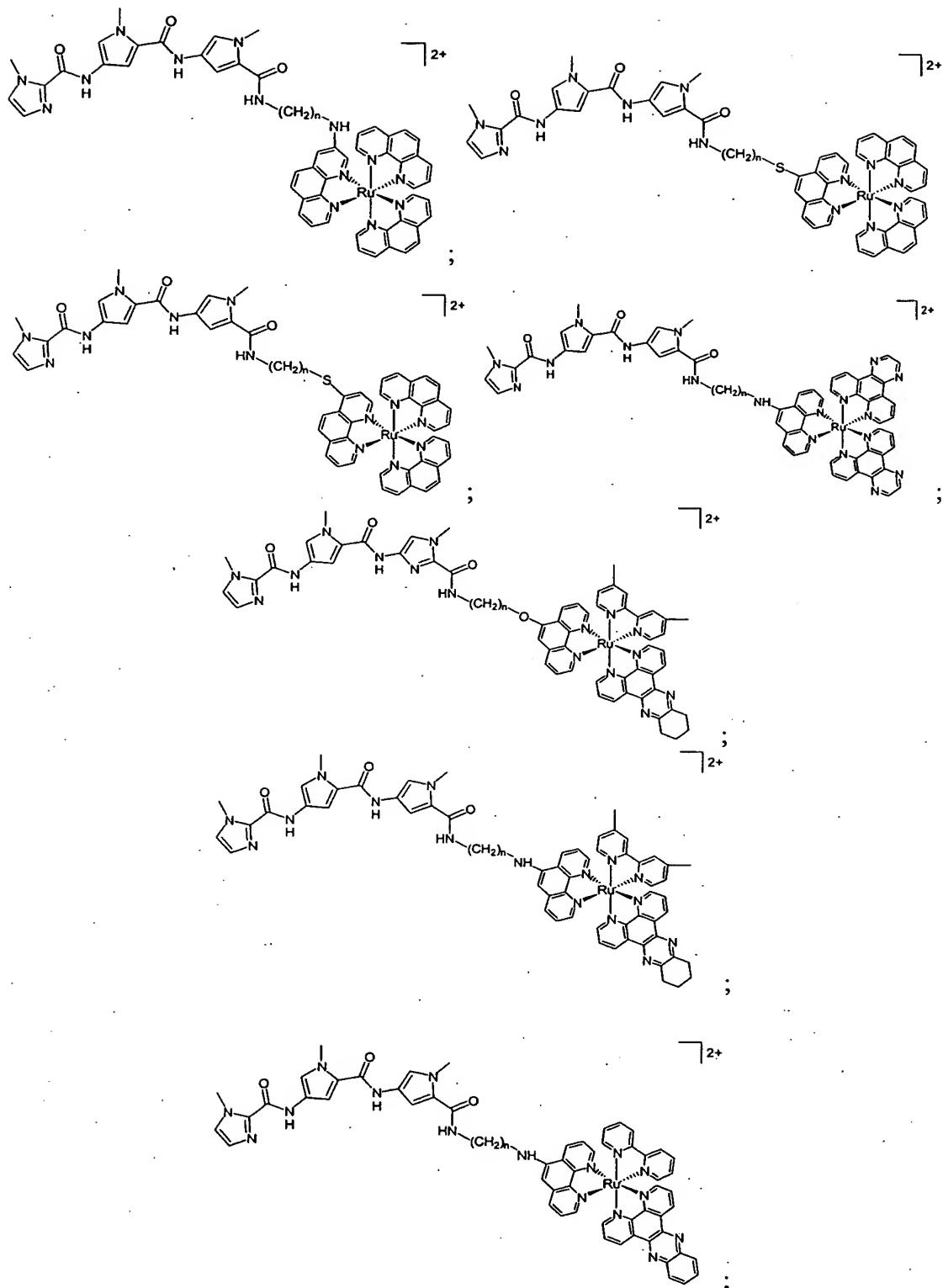
"trans-Im/Py/Py-[CONH(CH₂)₆-NH₂]Pt(NH₃)₂Cl";

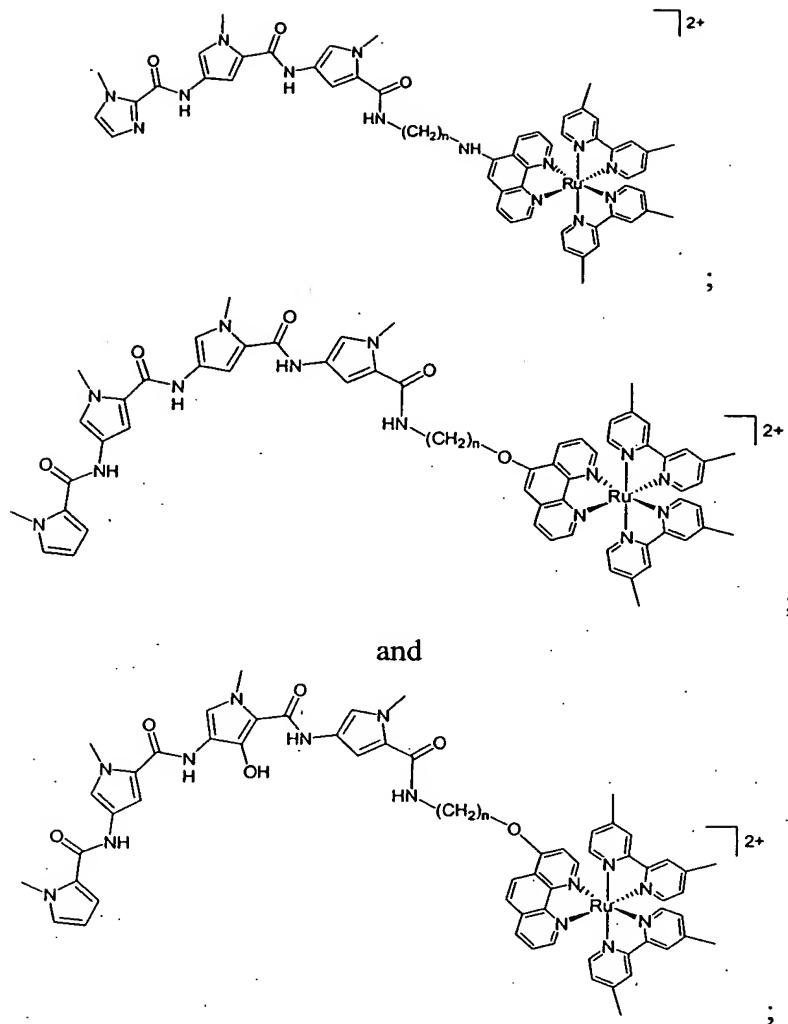


"trans-Im/Py/Py-[CONH(CH₂)₂-NH₂]Pt(NH₃)₂Cl";

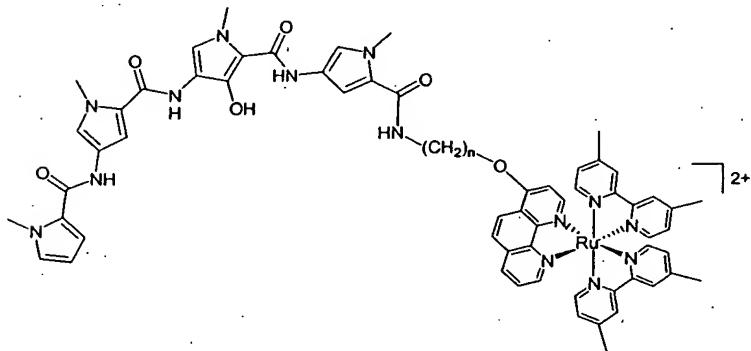


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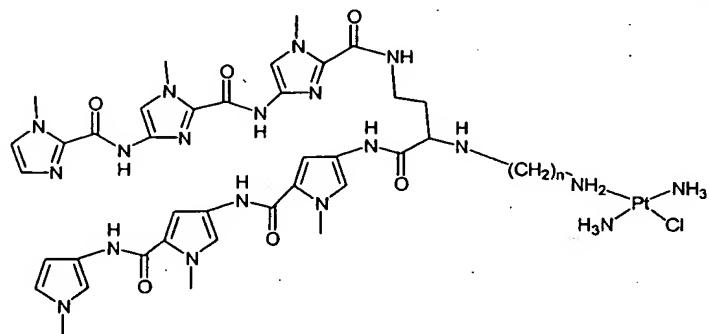


and

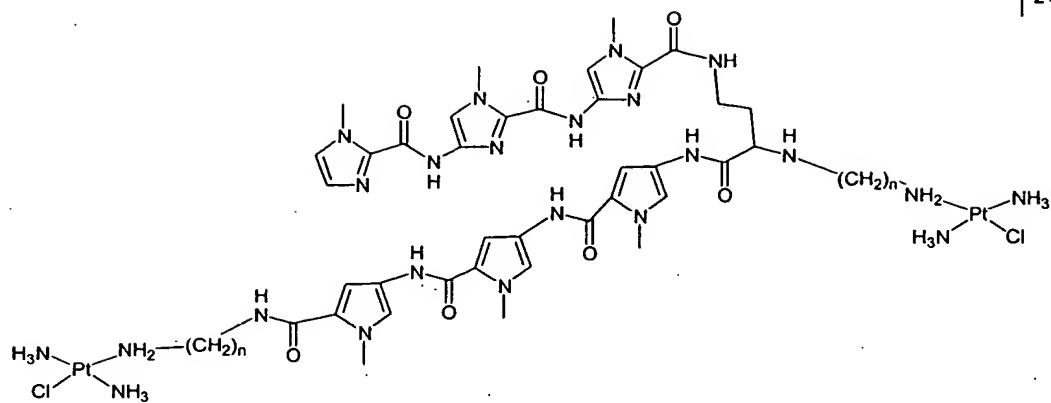


5 where n is an integer selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, or a salt thereof.

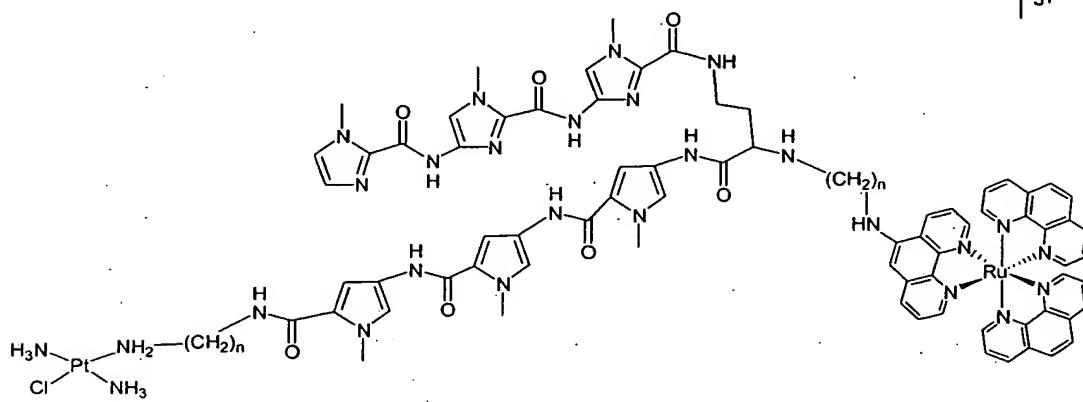
14. A compound according to claim 9, wherein said compound is selected from



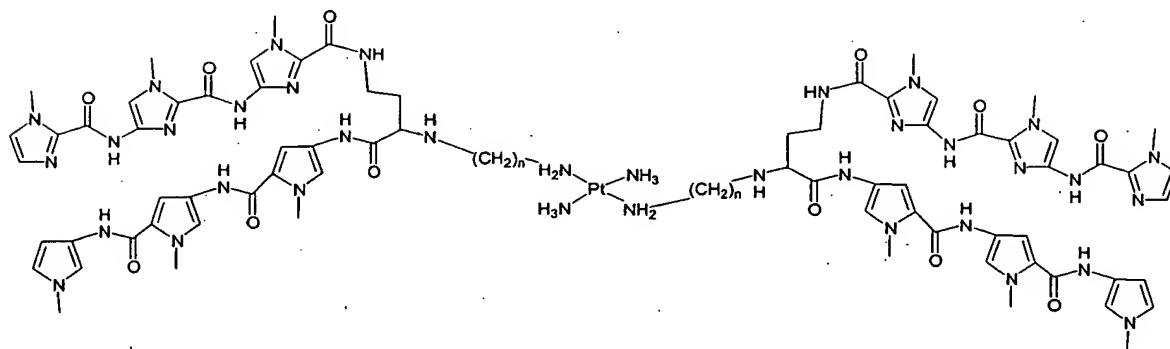
2+



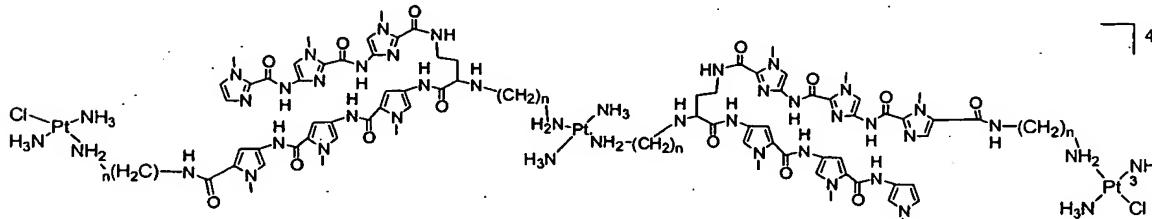
3+



1+

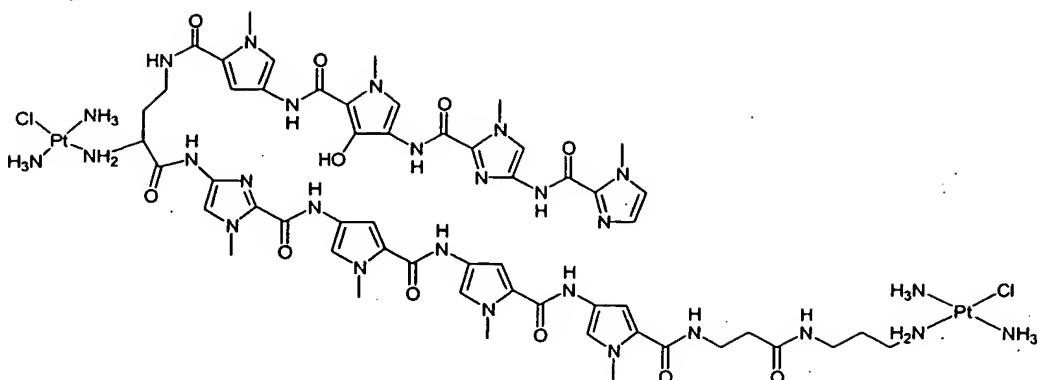


4+



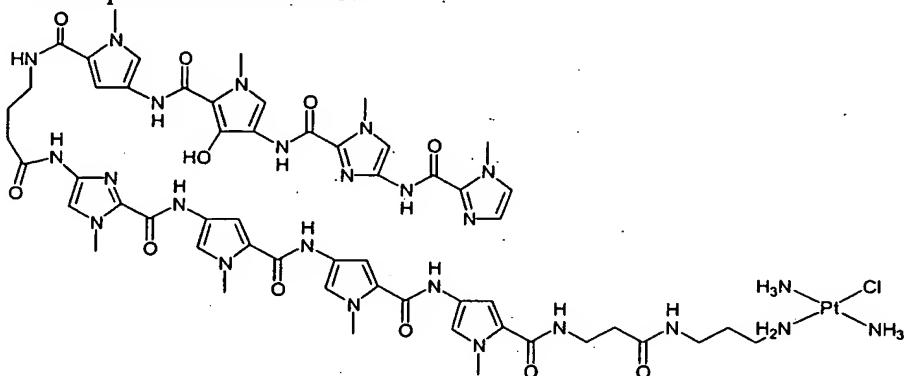
5

and



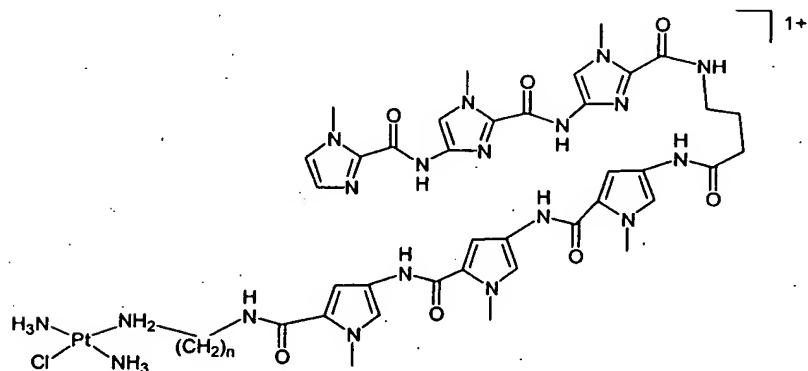
where each n is an integer independently selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, or a salt thereof.

15. A compound selected from



5

and



where each n is an integer independently selected from 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, or a salt thereof.

10 16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound selected from a compound of formula (1) according claim 1, a compound of formula (3) according to claim 9, and a compound according to claim 15, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, adjuvant or carrier.

17. A method of targeting a therapeutic agent(s) and/or a reporter group(s) to a sequence in a polynucleotide comprising contacting biological material suspected of containing said sequence with a compound of formula (1), formula (3) or claim 15.

18. A method of treating a disease selected from cancer, HIV and Hepatitis C, 5 said method comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 1, claim 9 or claim 15, or a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16.

19. A method of diagnosis comprising contacting a biological sample with a 10 diagnostically effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 1, claim 9 or claim 15, or a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16.

Dated 22 December, 2005
University of Western Sydney

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Patent Attorneys for the Applicant/Nominated Person
SPRUSON & FERGUSON

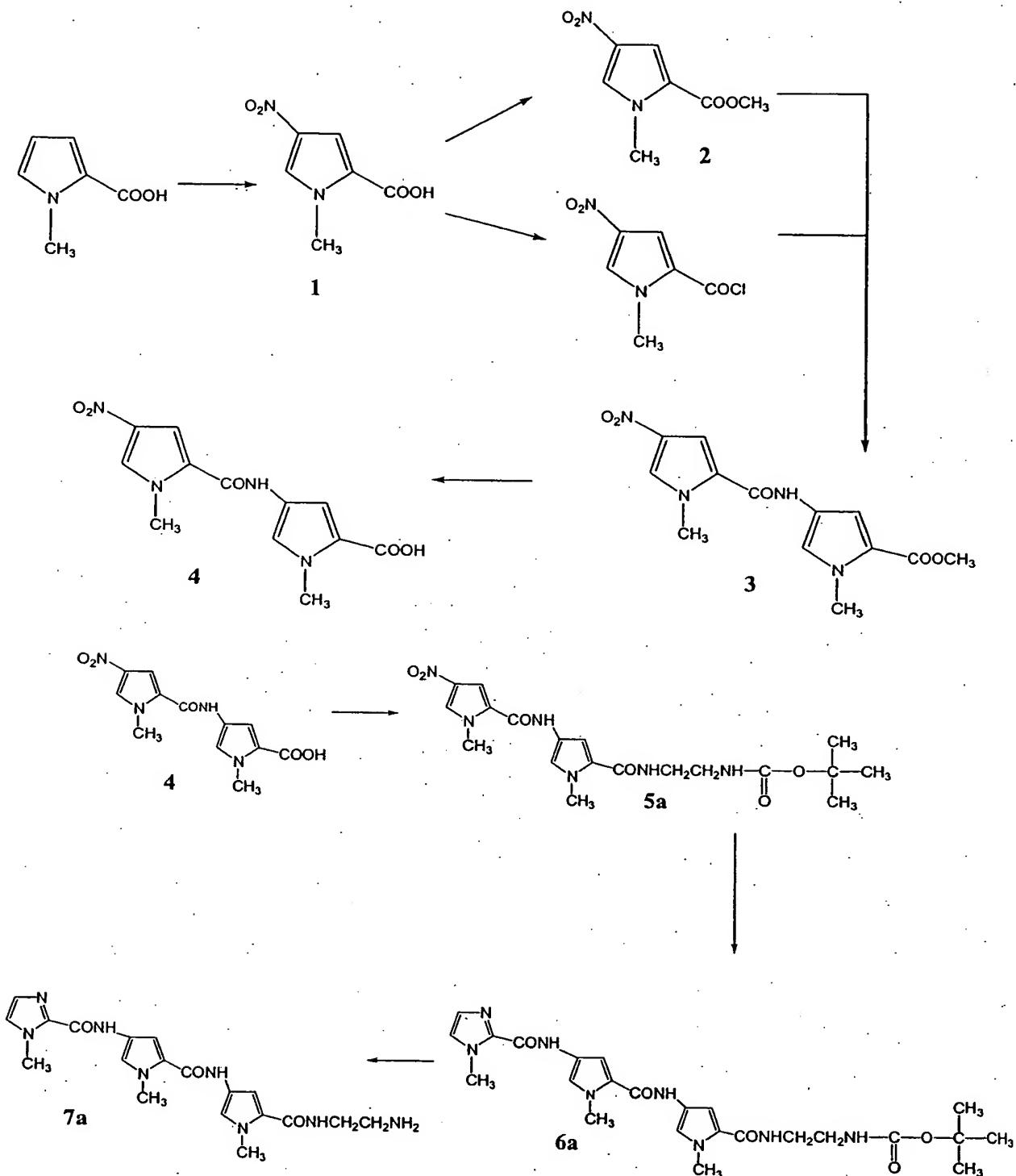


Figure 1

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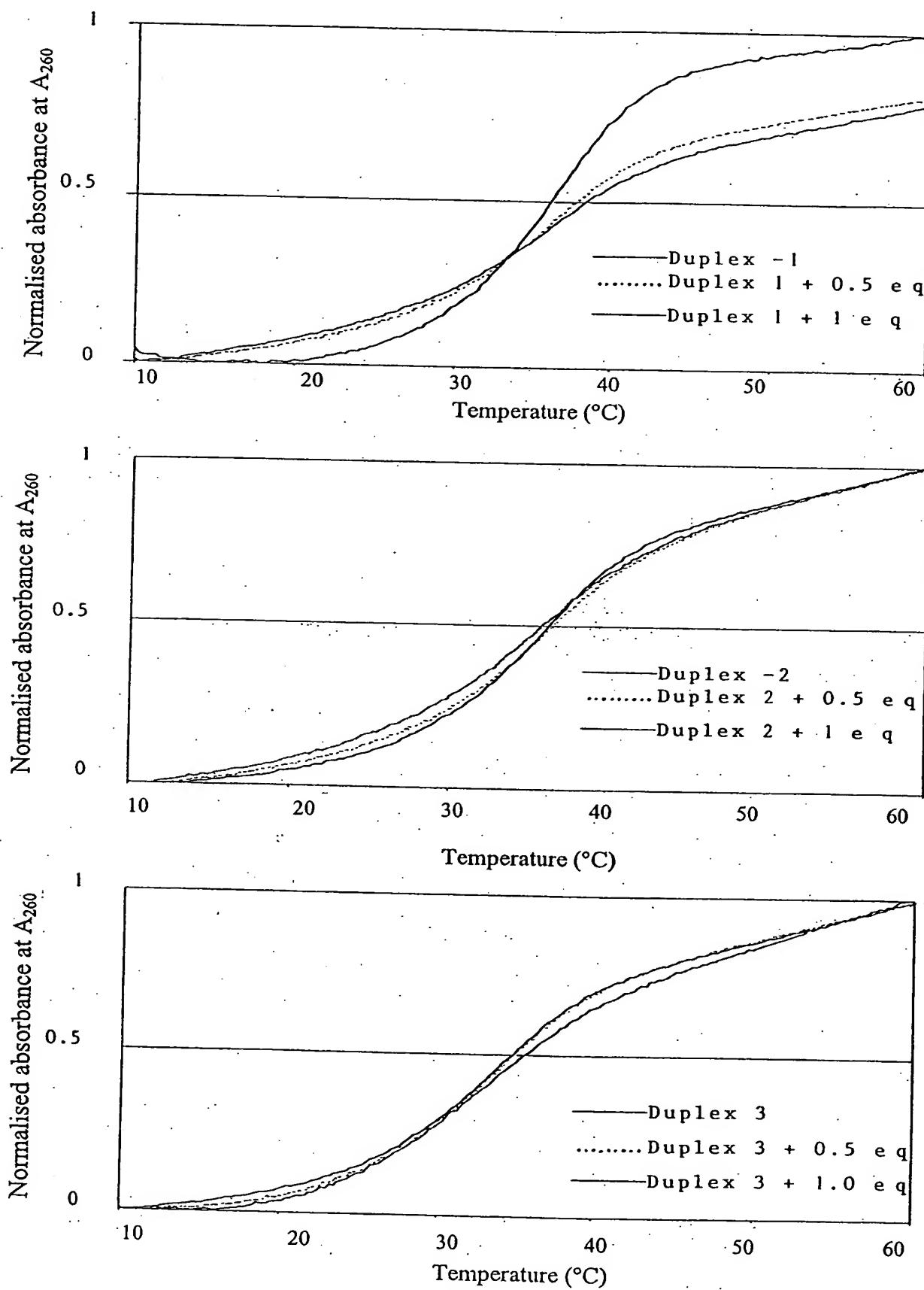
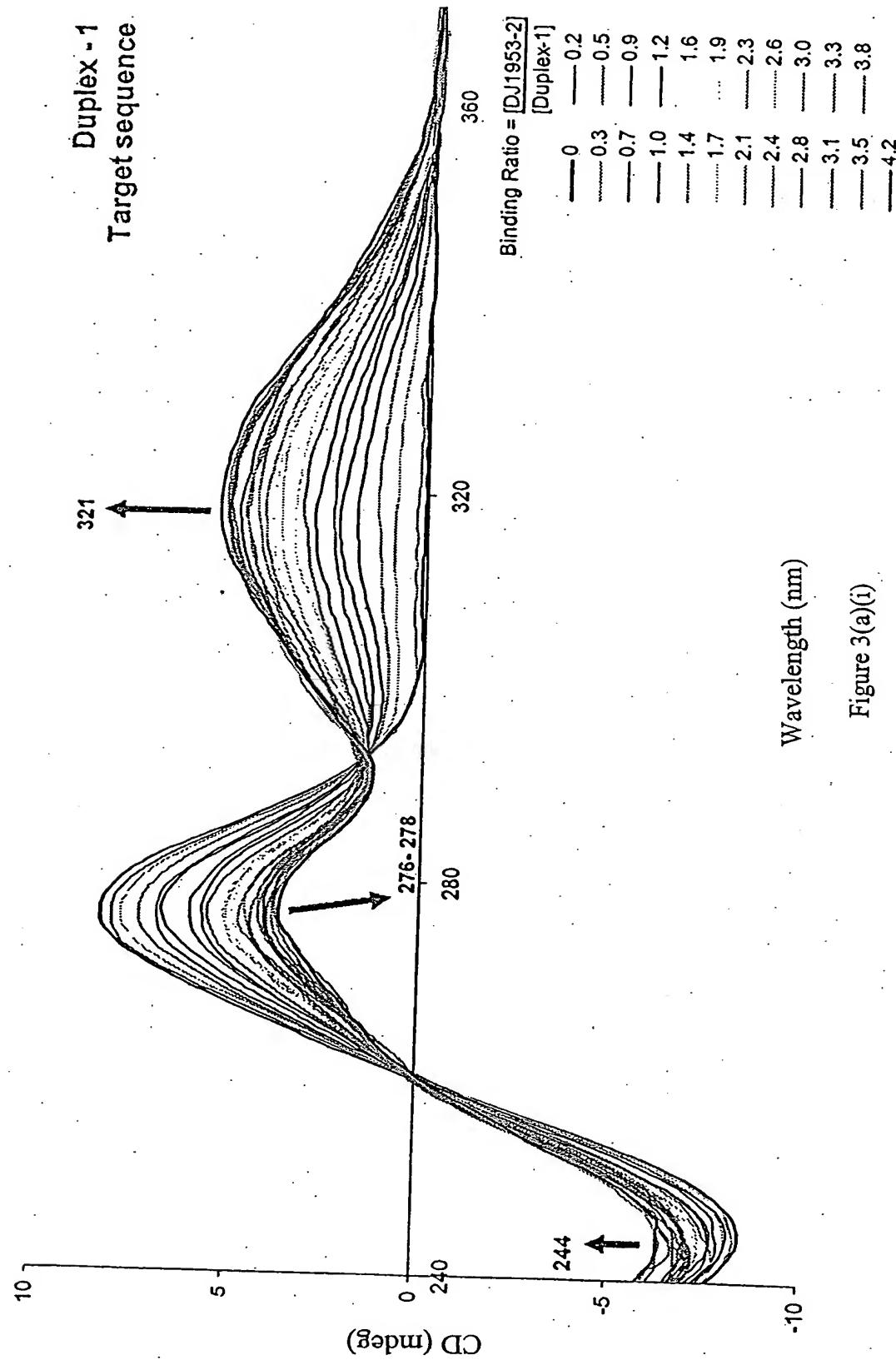


Figure 2

CD titration Spectra

DJ1953-2 trans-Im/Py/Py-[CONH(CH₂)₂-NH₂]Pt(NH₃)₂Cl

ICD titration Spectra



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PCT/AU2004/001368
Received 14 December 2004

Figure 3(a)(i)

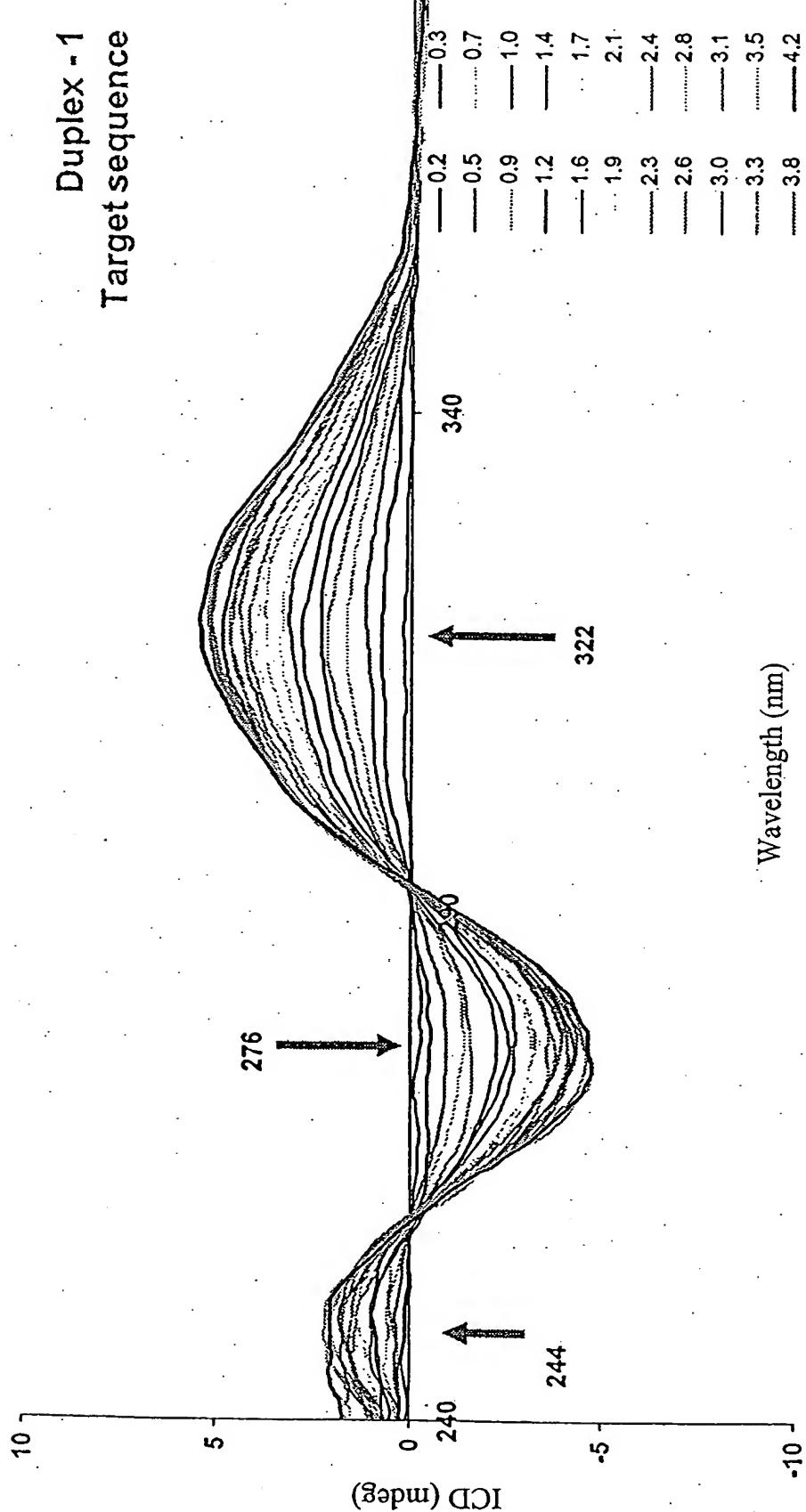
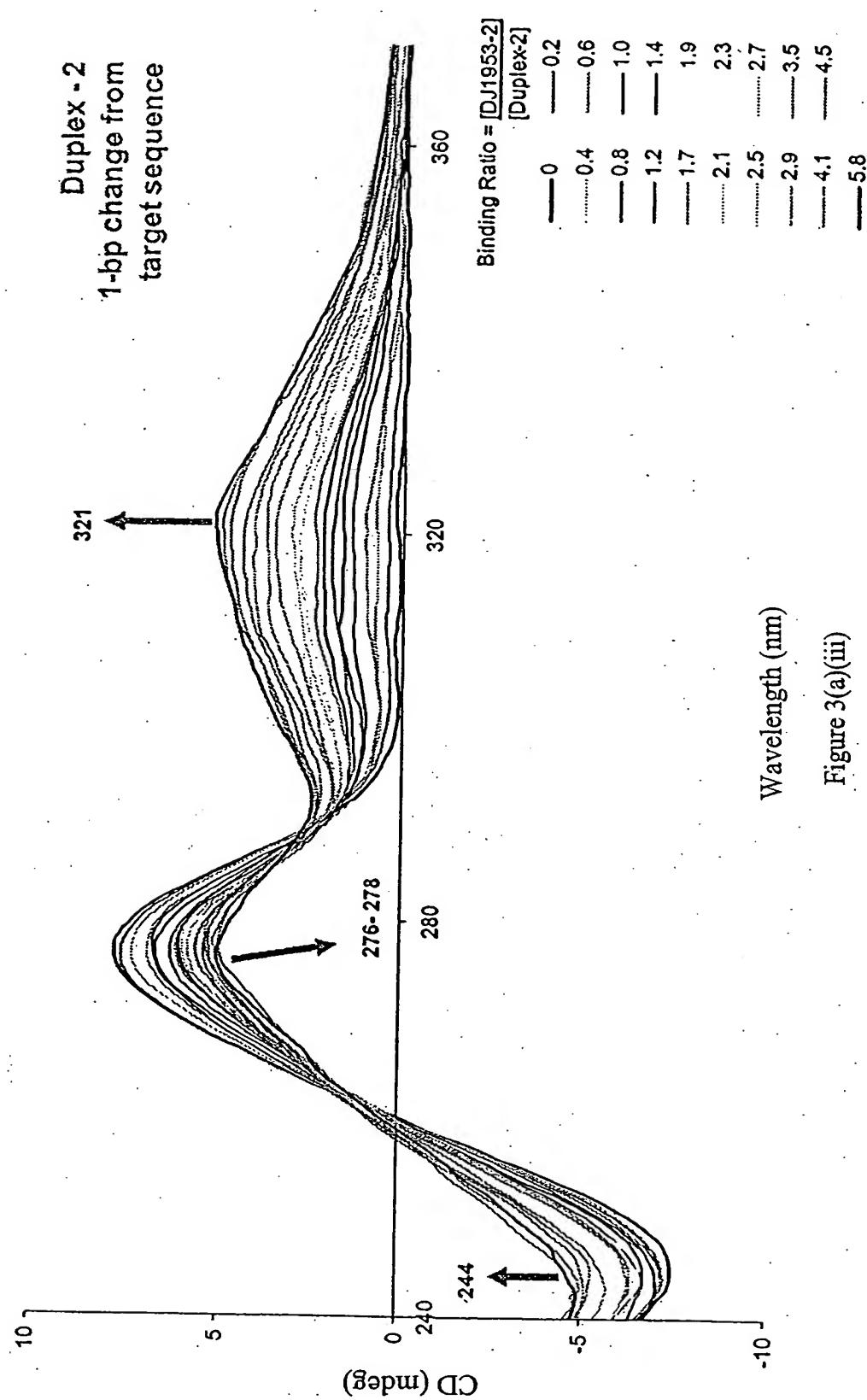


Figure 3(a)(ii)



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Duplex - 2
1-bp change from
target sequence

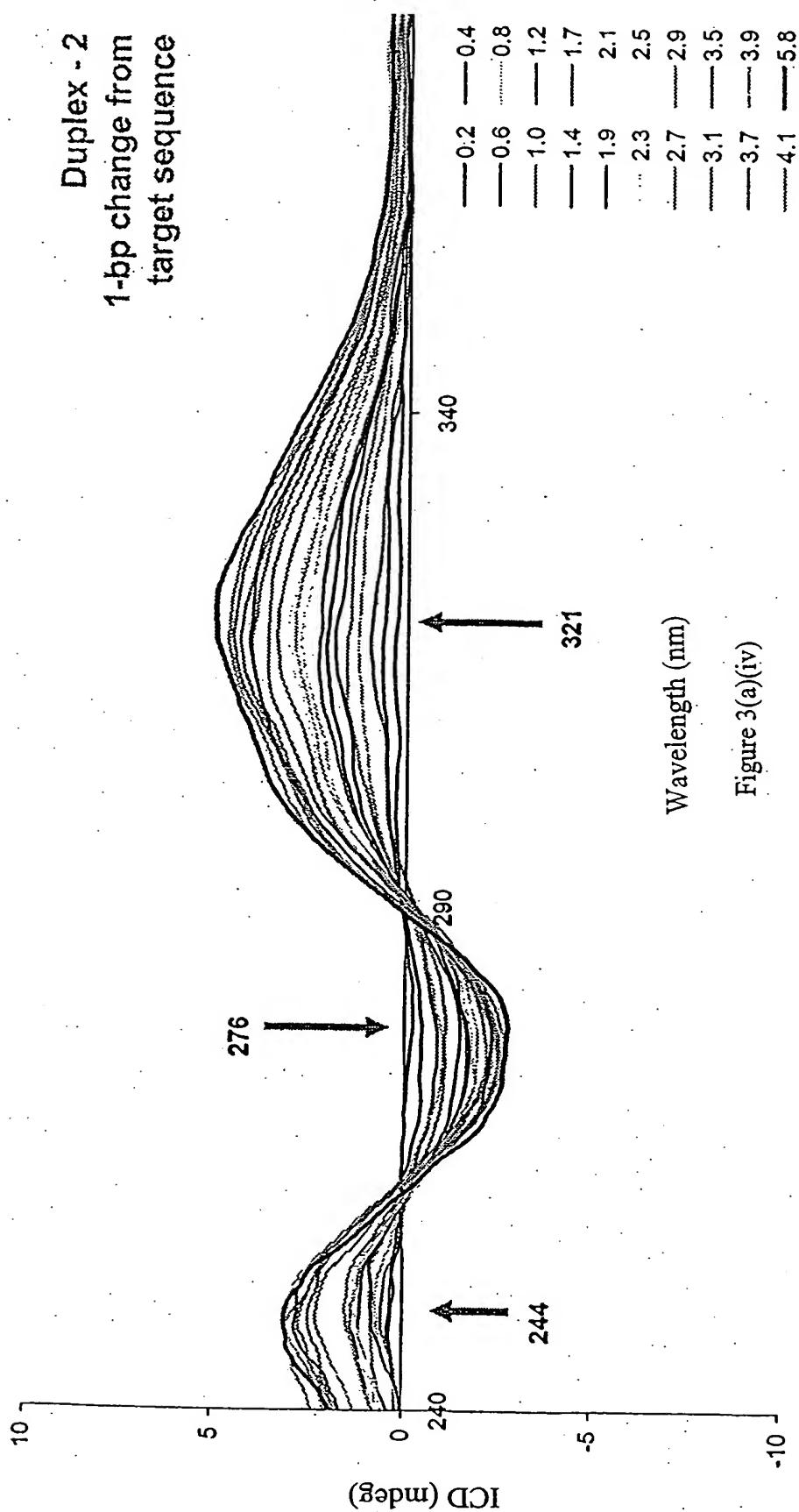
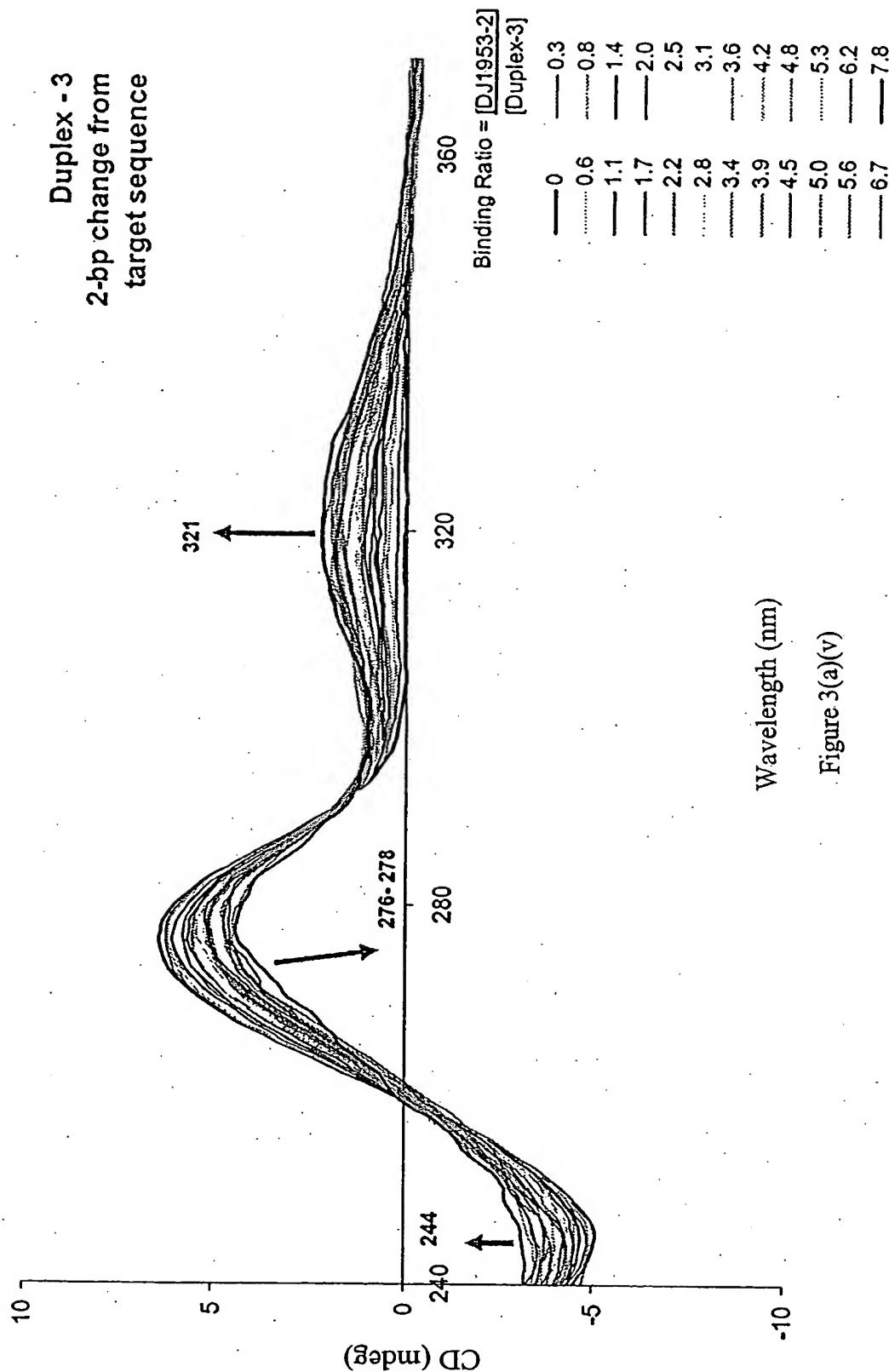


Figure 3(a)(iv)



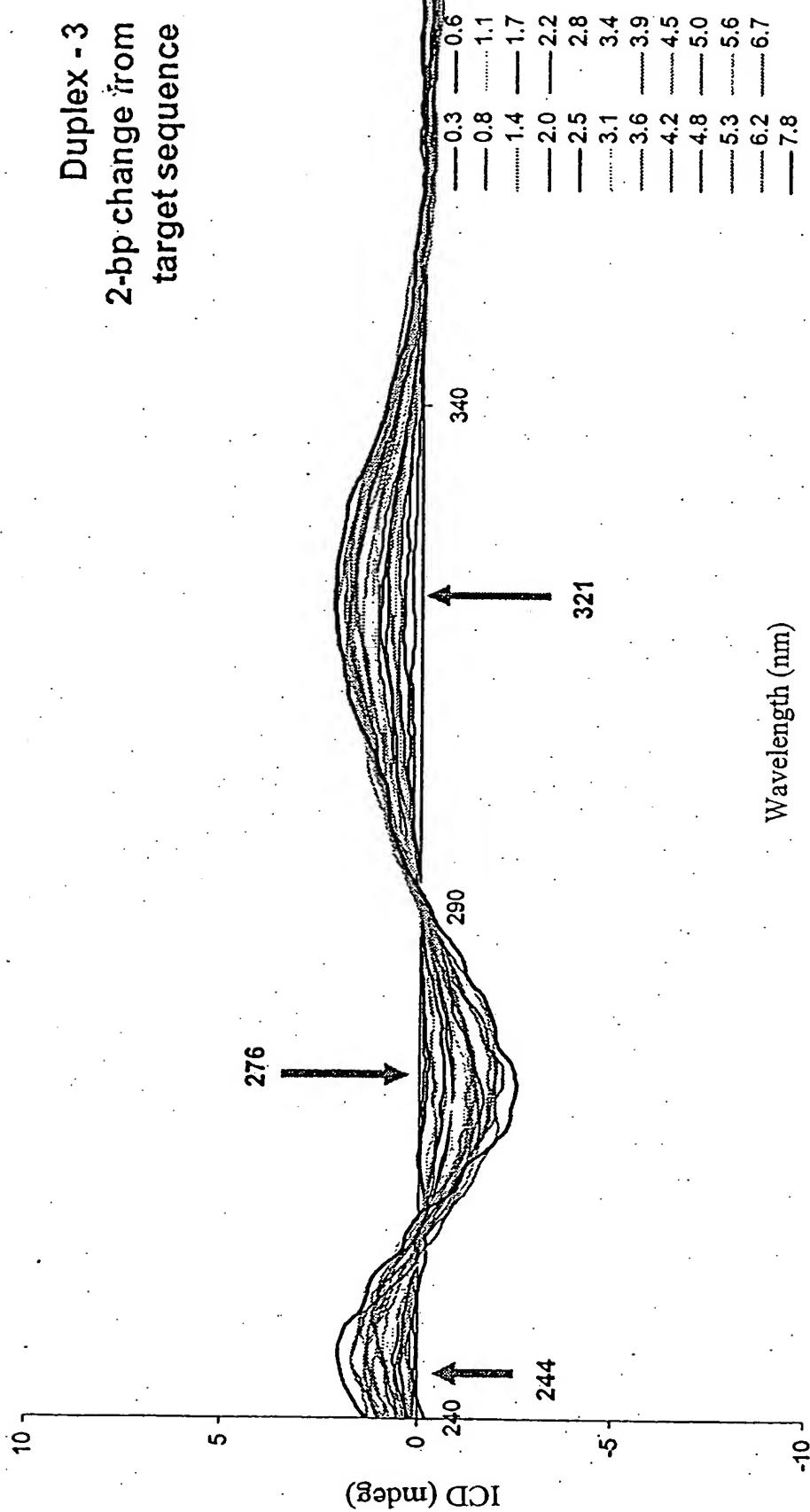


Figure 3(a)(vi)

trans-Im/Py/Py-[CONH(CH₂)₆-NH₂]Pt(NH₃)₂Cl

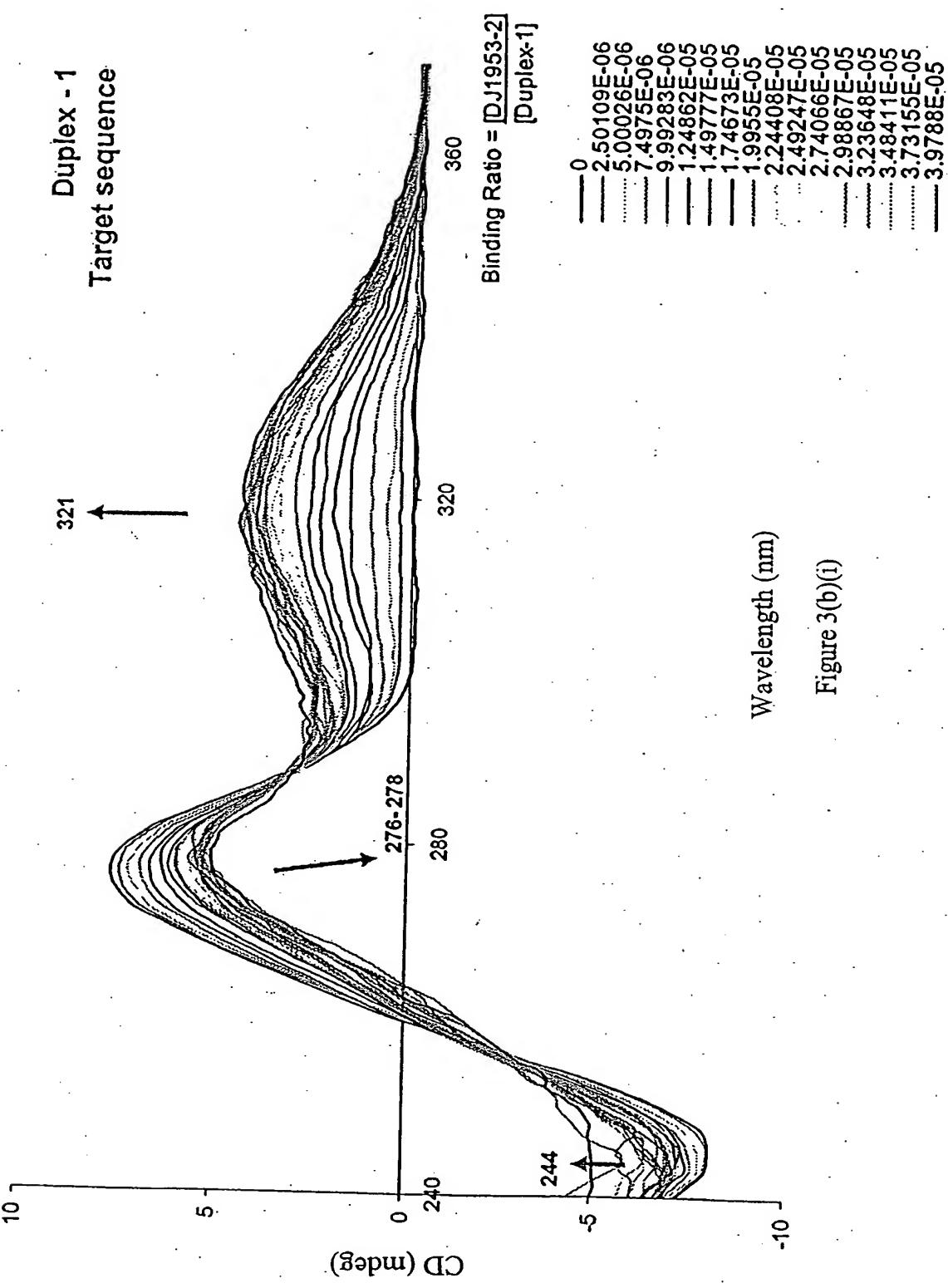


Figure 3(b)(i)

10/19

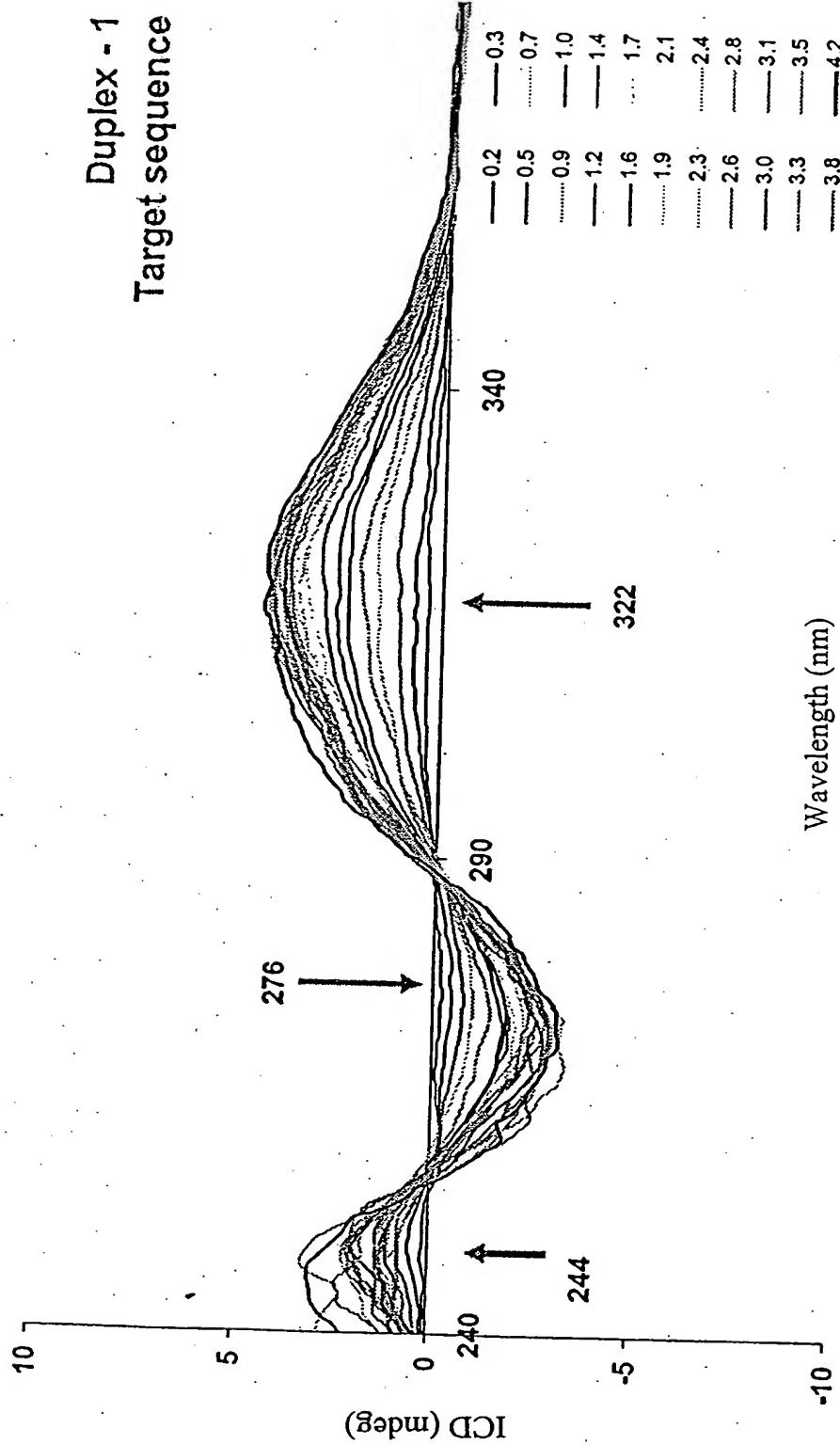


Figure 3(b)(ii)

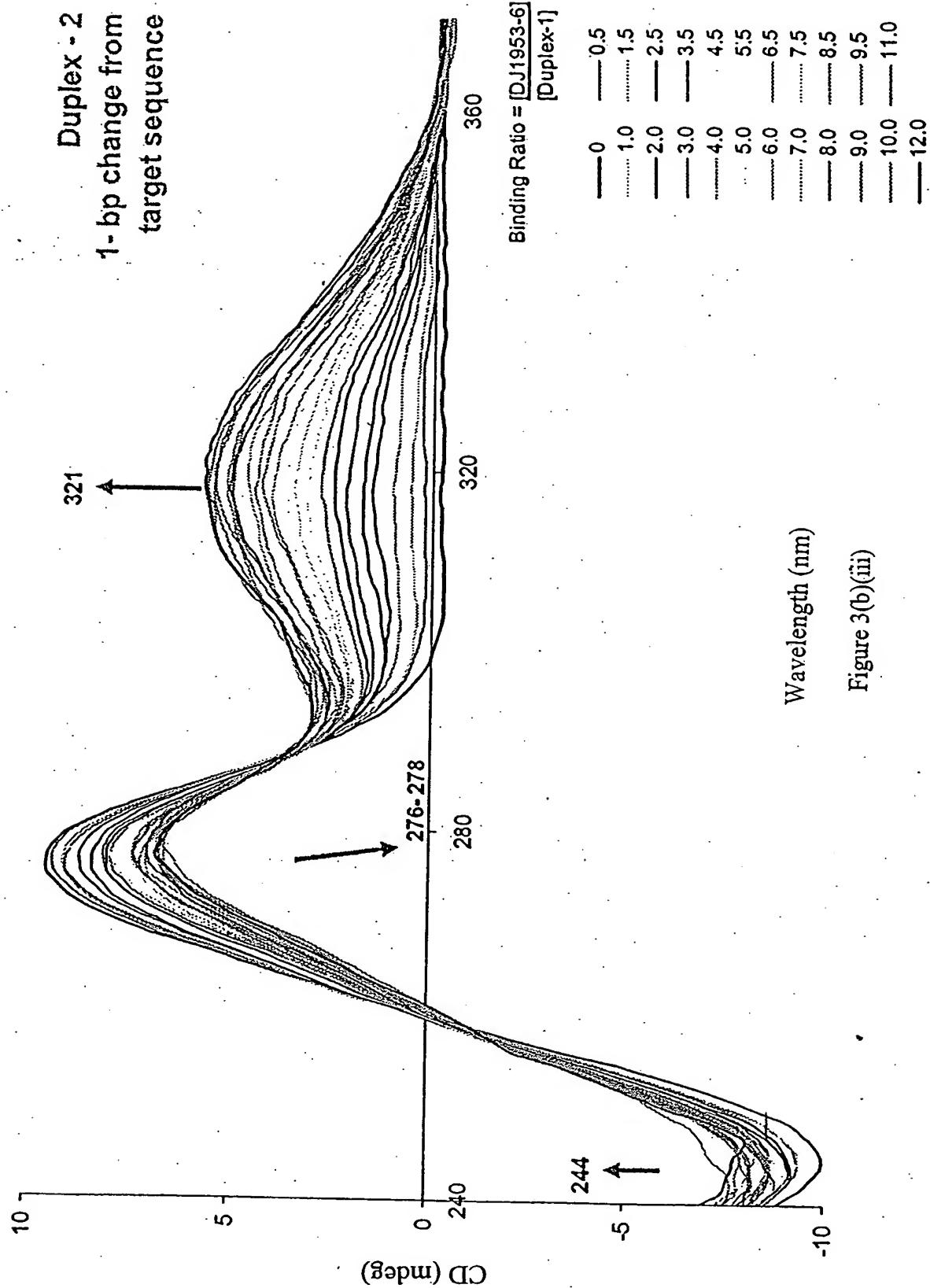


Figure 3(b)(iii)

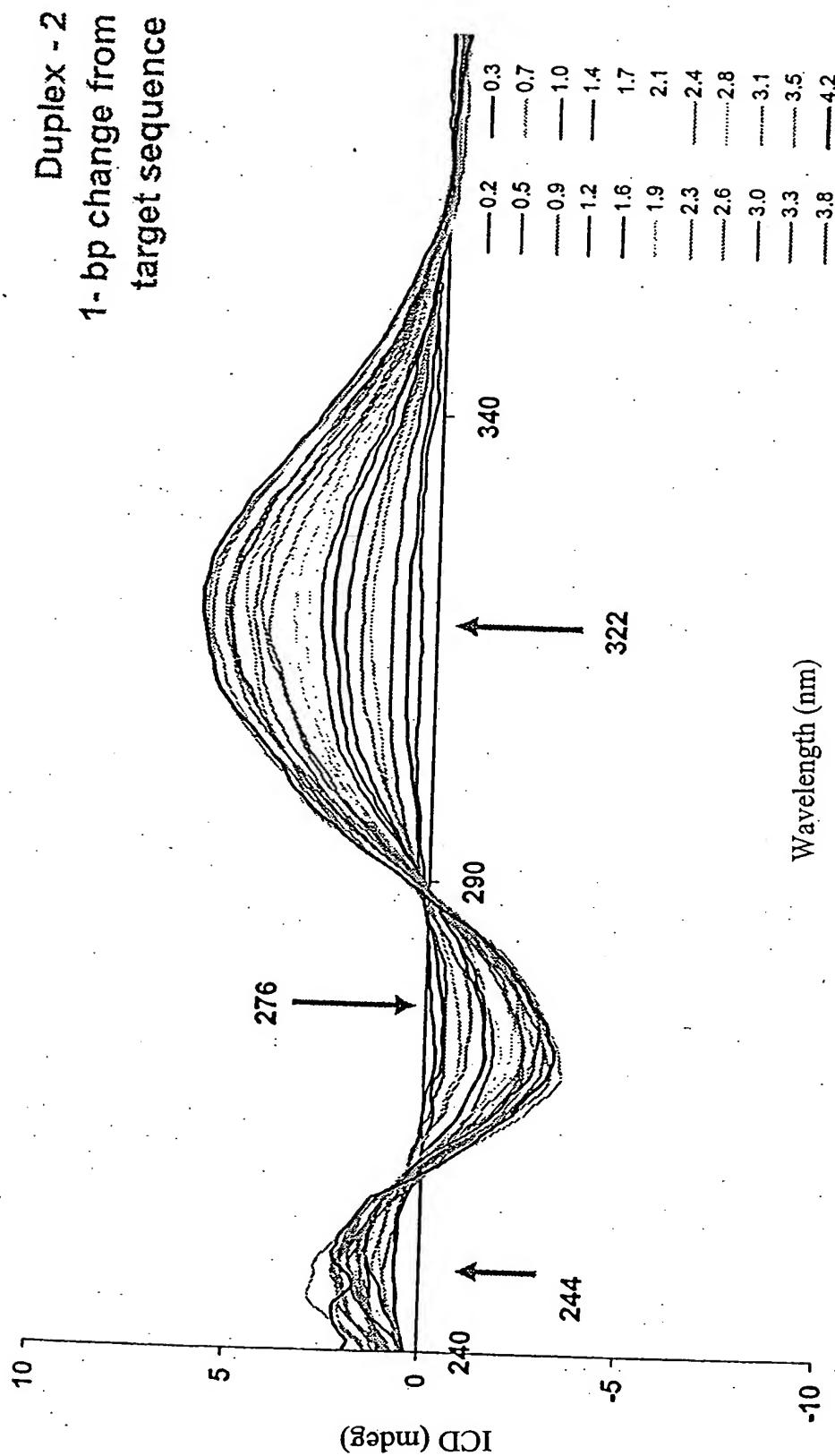


Figure 3(b)(iv)

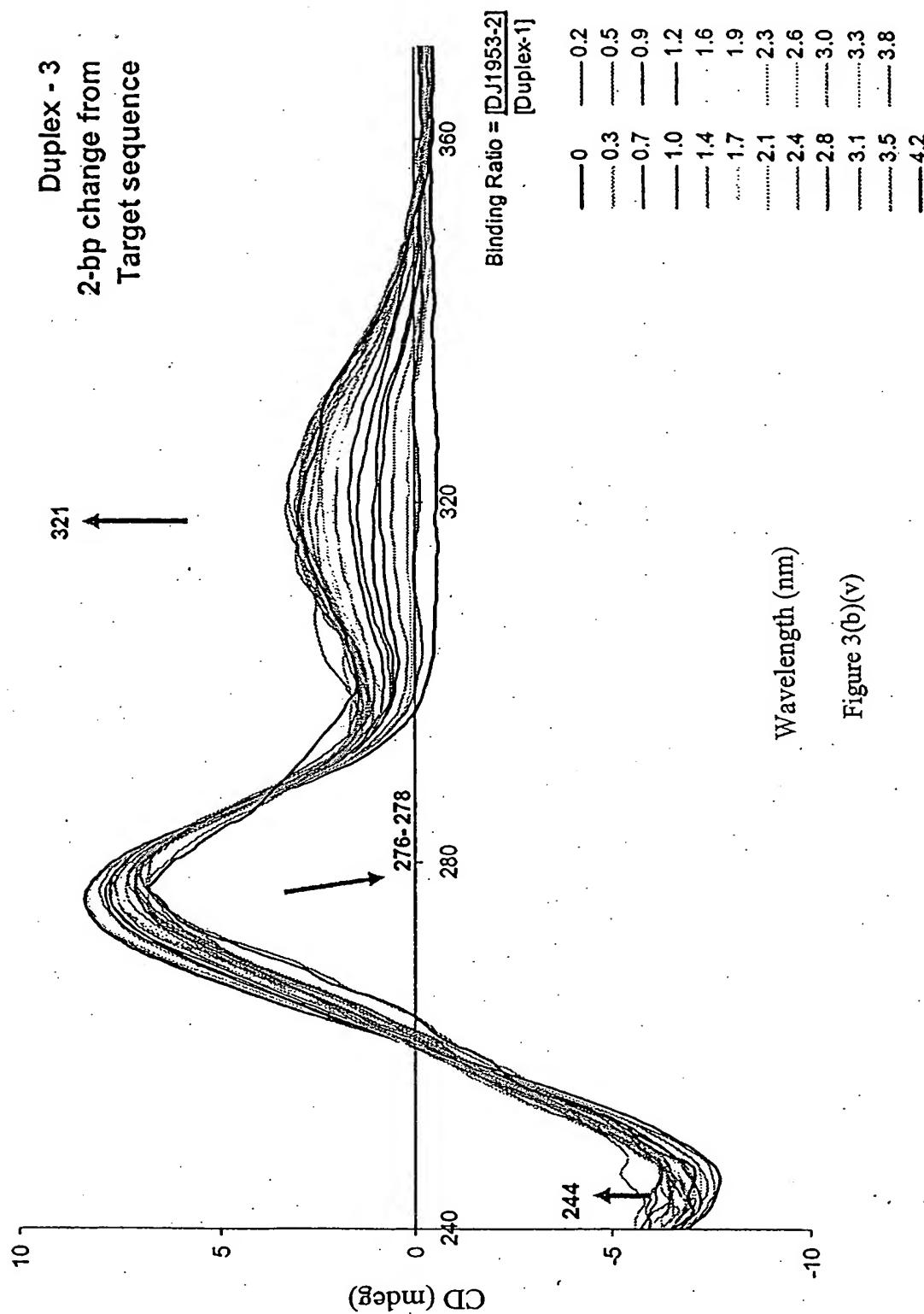


Figure 3(b)(v)

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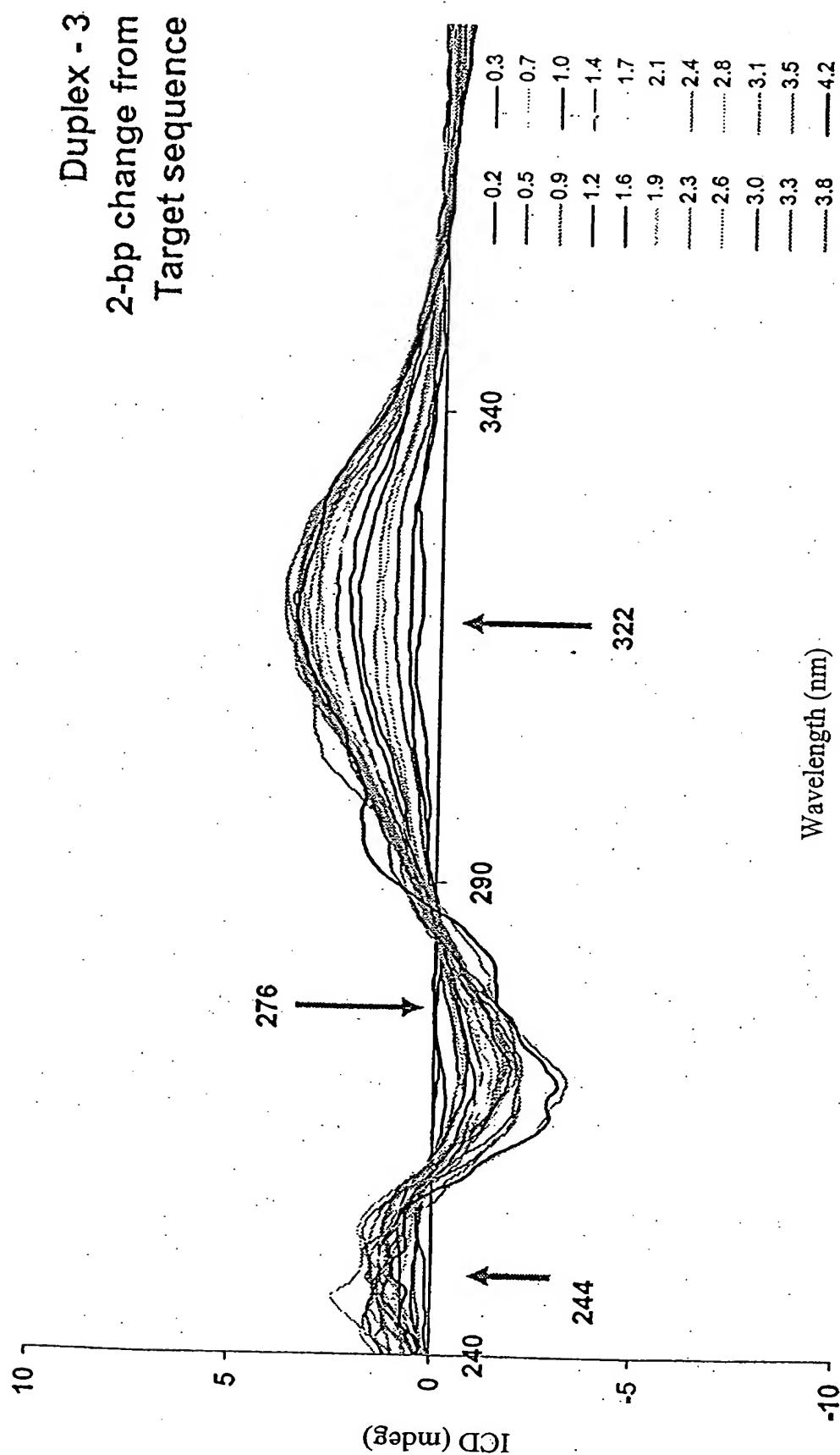


Figure 3(b)(vi)

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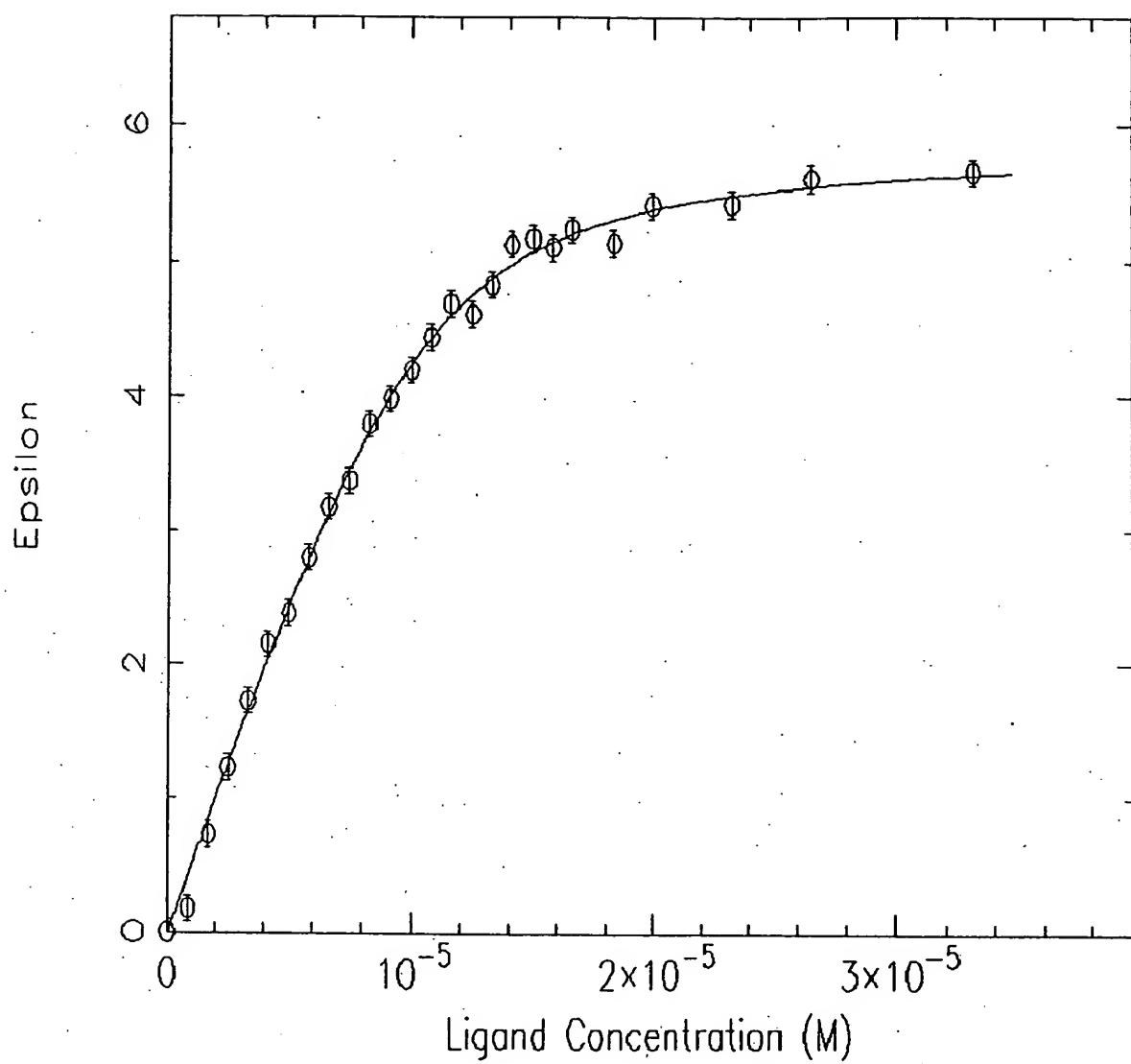


Figure 3c

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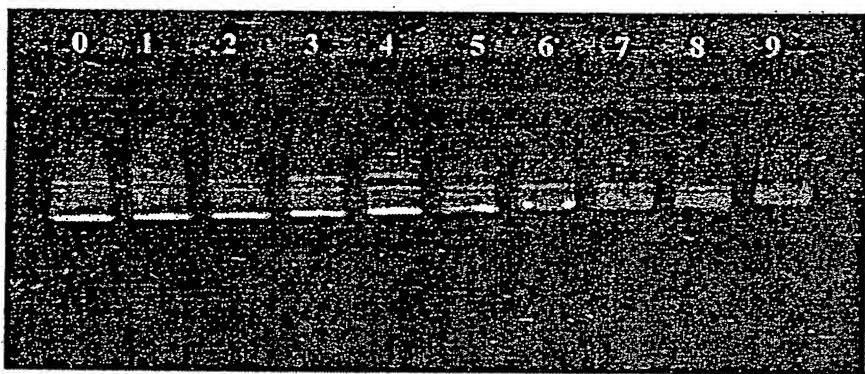


Figure 4

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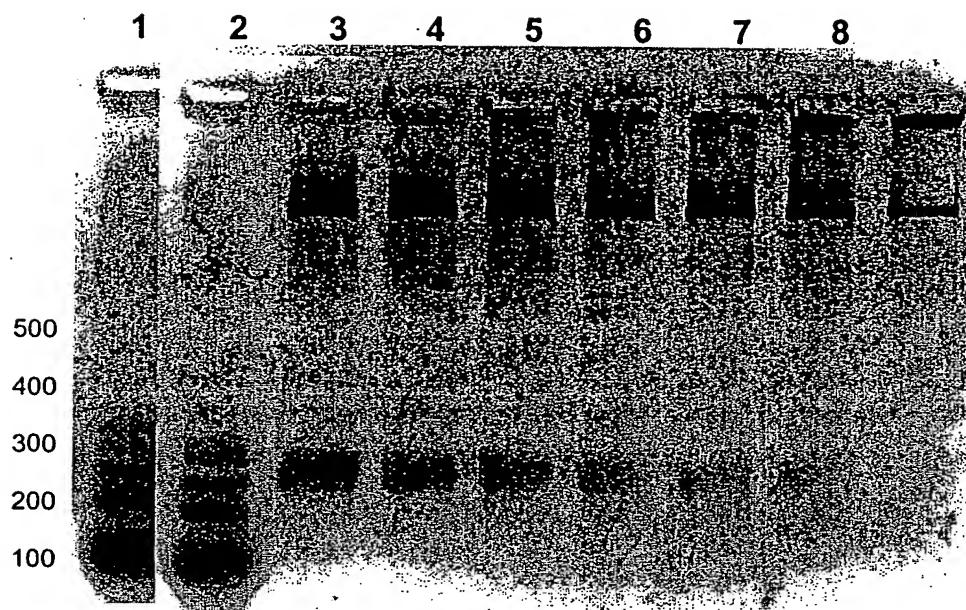


Figure 5

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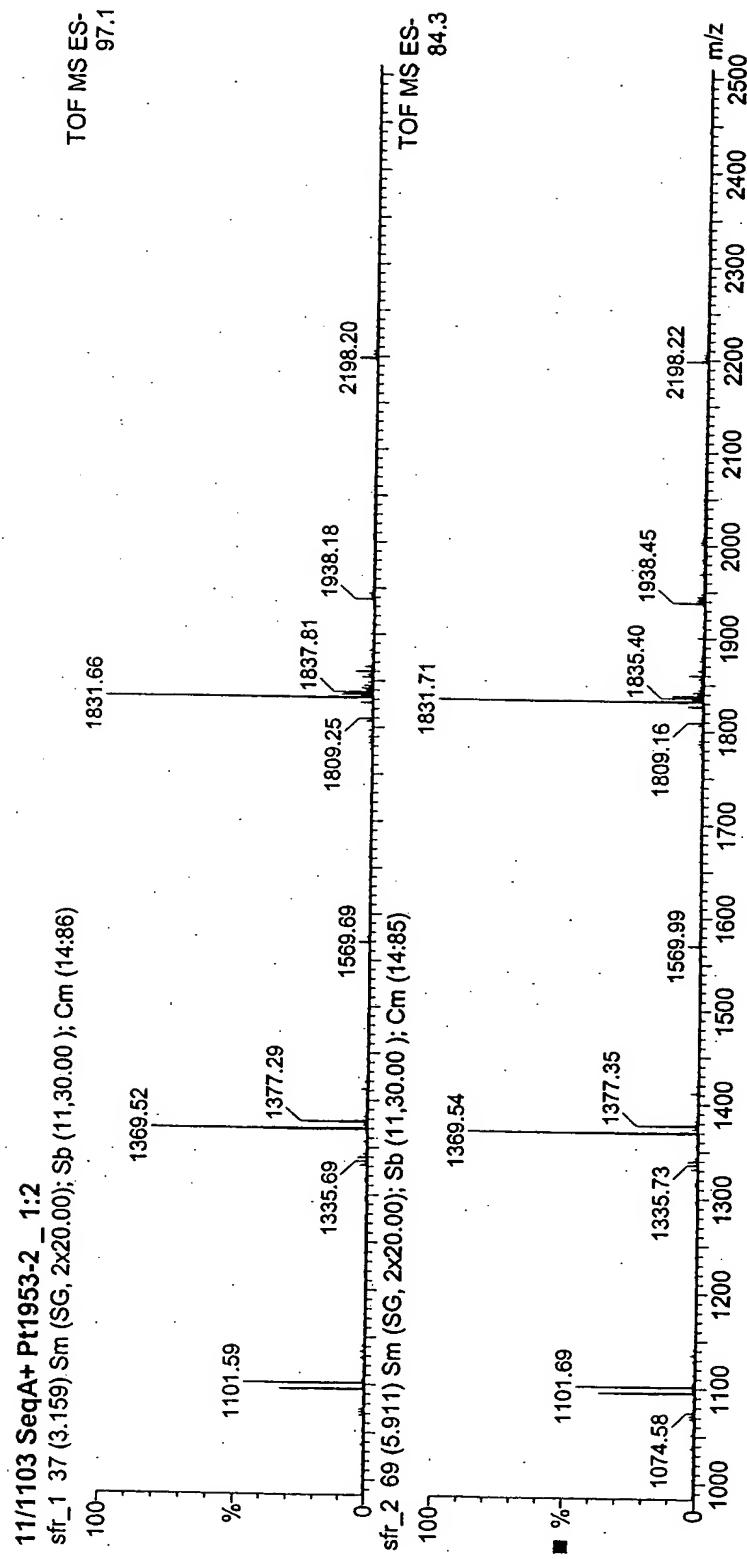


Figure 6

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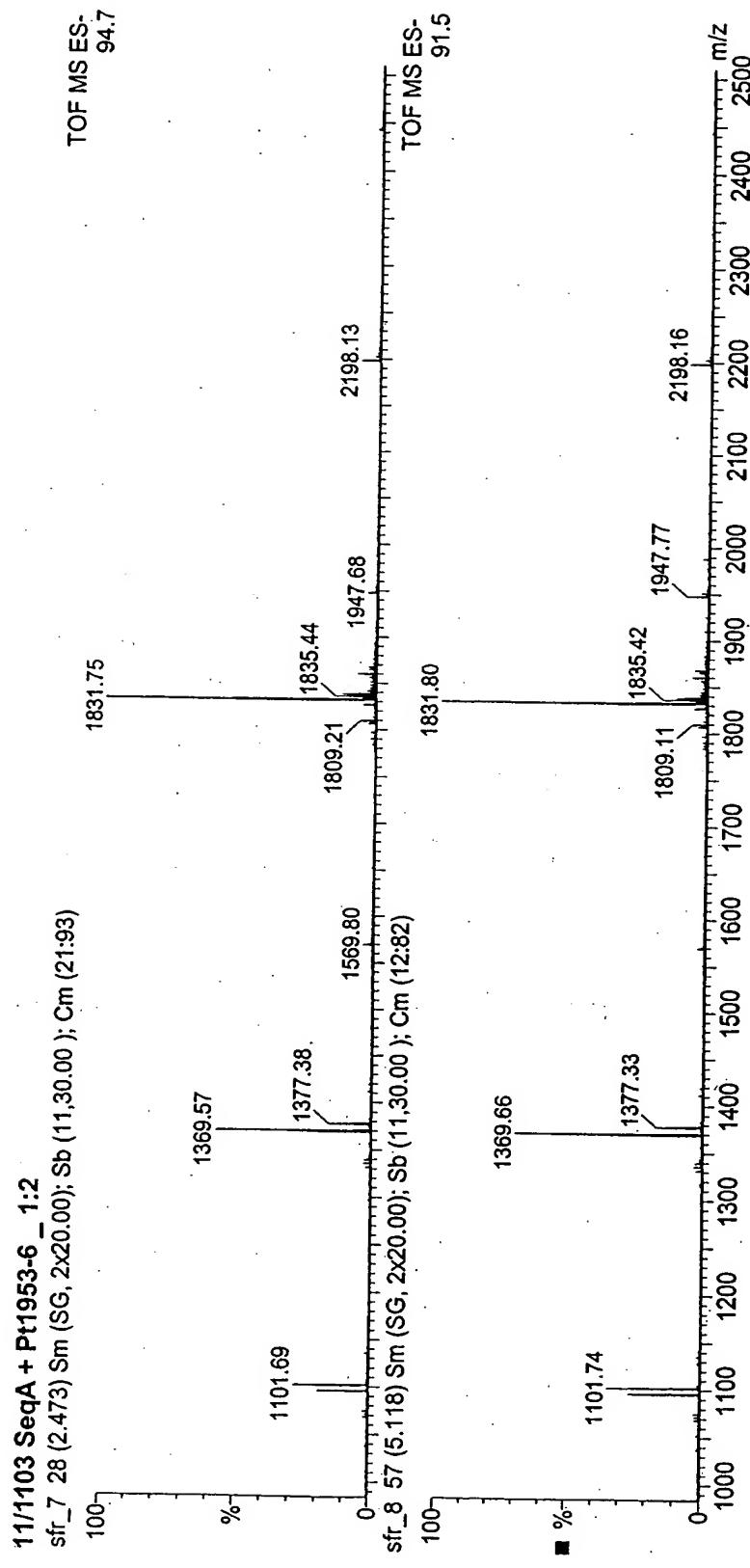


Figure 7

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/001368

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER | | |
| Int. CL ⁷ : C07D 207/34, 209/56, 233/90; A61K 31/4164, 31/40; A61P 35/00, 31/18, 31/12 | | |
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED | | |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) STN CAS-Online: substructure search | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | WO 1998/049142 A1 (CARLIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY) 5 November 1998 See whole document | 13, 17-20 |
| X | WO 2003/041128 A2 (PHARMACIA CORPORATION) 15 May 2003 See whole document | 13, 17-20 |
| X | US 4942227 (DERVAN et al) 17 July 1990 See whole document, especially, columns 87-90 | 13 |
| X | WO 1999/062551 A1 (BOARD OF REGENTS, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM) 9 December 1999 See whole document, especially pages 31-34 | 13, 17-20 |
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| Date of the actual completion of the international search 3 December 2004 | Date of mailing of the international search report 14 DEC 2004 | |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929 | Authorized officer O.L. CHAI Telephone No : (02) 6283 2482 | |

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| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | WO 2003/020877 A2 (PHARMACIA CORPORAON) 13 March 2003 See whole document, especially Example XVII, pages 12, 90, 91 | 13 |
| X | BARALDI P G et al, "Design, synthesis and in vitro cytotoxicity of a cis-dichloroplatinum (II) complex linked to the minor groove binder stallimycin" Arzneimittel-Forschung (2003), 53(2), 107-113 See abstract, structural formulae at page 108, Scheme 1 (compounds 10,11) | 13 |
| X | Belitsky, Jason M et al, "Cellular uptake of N-methylpyrrole/N-methylimidazole polyamide-dye conjugates" Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry (2002), 10(10), 3313-3318 See Figure 1 | 13, 17-20 |
| X | Pitie, Marguerite et al, "Mechanisms of DNA cleavage by copper complexes of 3-Clip-Phen and of its conjugate with a distamycin analogue" Nucleic Acids Research (2000), 28(24), 4856-4864 Copper complex of conjugates 1, 2 and 3 in Figure 1 | 13 |
| X | Loskotova, Hana et al, "DNA interactions of cisplatin tethered to the DNA minor groove binder distamycin" European Journal of Biochemistry (1999), 266(2), 392-402 See Figure 1 | 13 |
| X | Swalley, Susanne et al., "Effects of .gamma.-Turn and .beta.-Tail Amino Acids on Sequence-Specific Recognition of DNA by Hairpin Polyamides" Journal of the American Chemical Society (1999), 121(6), 1113-1120 See Figure 2 | 13 |
| X | Lee, Moses et al, "Novel platinum(II) derivatives of analogs of netropsin and distamycin: synthesis, DNA binding and cytotoxic properties" Medicinal Chemistry Research (1996), 6(6), 365-371 See abstract and Figure 2 | 13, 17-20 |
| X | Sugurdsson, Snorri Th. et al, "Synthesis and reactions with DNA of a family of DNA-DNA affinity crosslinking agents" Tetrahedron (1994), 50(42), 12065-84 See scheme 1, compounds 1-3 cross linked to distamycin | 13 |
| X | Huang, Liren et al, "Design of DNA-cleaving molecules which incorporate a simplified metal-complexing moiety of bleomycin and lexitropsin carriers" Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters (1993), 3(8), 1751-6 See scheme 4, Fe(II)-hybrid complexes | 13 |
| X | Youngquist, R. Scott et al, "A synthetic peptide binds 16 base pairs of A,T double helical DNA" Journal of the American Chemical Society (1987), 109(24), 7564-6 See Figure 2 | 13 |

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International application No.

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| Patent Document Cited in Search Report | | Patent Family Member | | | | | |
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| | | AU | 61517/98 | AU | 61588/98 | AU | 62552/98 |
| | | AU | 64334/98 | AU | 64341/98 | AU | 67576/98 |
| | | AU | 71040/98 | CA | 2247889 | CA | 2279959 |
| | | CA | 2280806 | CA | 2281843 | CA | 2281930 |
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| | | WO | 1998037087 | WO | 1998045284 | WO | 1998050058 |
| | | WO | 1998050582 | | | | |
| WO | 2003041128 | CA | 2465886 | EP | 1451856 | US | 2003109448 |
| US | 4942227 | US | 4529401 | US | 4665184 | | |
| WO | 1999062551 | AU | 42321/99 | CA | 2334809 | EP | 1082138 |
| | | NO | 20006155 | US | 6207660 | | |
| WO | 2003020877 | NIL | | | | | |

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